

New Office of Compliance Promotes Culture of Ethical Behavior and Compliance with Regulations

An effective way to stay in compliance with the law is to have a fully developed and effective compliance program. That is why on Aug. 1 Samarria Dunson was promoted to direct the Office of Compliance. Ms. Dunson brings a wealth of knowledge to this position, including a law degree and a Certification in Healthcare Compliance.

In announcing the newly created office, State Health Officer Dr. Donald Williamson said, "The department handles and transmits large amounts of protected health information and personal identification information on a daily basis. This new office will be responsible for strict adherence to applicable privacy and security laws as well as information and training."

This office was formed, in part, as a result of recent breaches of patient data by health department employees. In a statement to management, Dr. Williamson expressed, "I feel very strongly that any public health employee who willingly breaches protected health information for profit or other reasons should be prosecuted and imprisoned if convicted."

Ms. Dunson provided this description of the office's purpose and areas of focus.

1. Promote a culture of ethical behavior and commitment to compliance with federal and state regulations;
2. Detect and prevent wrongdoing;
3. Provide safe mechanisms for employees to report compliance issues and seek help;
4. Raise awareness of compliance issues;
5. Train and instruct department employees on compliance; and
6. Protect the department's reputation with federal and state regulators, as well as the community it serves.

After assessing both known risks of the department and universal risks affecting all health care entities, the Office of Compliance has identified areas of immediate focus. Those areas include:

1. Contracts and business associate agreements;
2. Medical records security;
3. E-PHI (Electronic protected health information) security;

4. Consolidation of training and policies;
5. Development of a compliance manual;
6. Implementation of annual compliance training;
7. Billing issues;
8. Office of Inspector General (OIG) Exclusions List;
9. Continued focus on HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy and Security; and
10. Focused refresher training in response to Office of Program Integrity audit findings.

Compliance and Ethics Committee

The success of a compliance program relies upon assigning high-level personnel to oversee its implementation and operations. Therefore, a Compliance and Ethics Committee has been tasked with reviewing proposed policies and procedures, providing input on departmental risks, and making recommendations to the Compliance Officer.

Members include Teela Carmack, Renae Carpenter, Valerie Cochran, Rebecca Estes, Glenda Harris, Debbie Jones, Deena Strickland, Debra Thrash and Pam Williams in addition to Ms. Dunson.

For more information on the Office of Compliance, visit www.adph.org/compliance.



Front row, Debbie Jones, Rebecca Estes; second row, Debra Thrash, Valerie Cochran; third row: Renae Carpenter, Samarria Dunson, Glenda Harris; fourth row: Teela Carmack.

County Health Departments Seek Customer Input Via ‘Smiley-face’ Satisfaction Survey

“Smile: It’s Catching!” is the theme for a customer satisfaction survey that is being offered to Alabama Department of Public Health clinic patients and clients. The paper and web-based surveys are available in both the English and Spanish languages.

The simple survey first asks four questions about the ability to get appointments as soon as needed, the waiting room time, staff helpfulness and staff friendliness. Next the customer is to mark which clinic or service was provided. Three open-ended questions follow: asking for the names of staff who were especially helpful or nice, what is being done well, and ways to provide better service. Patients/clients are to mark an X on the face that best indicates how they rate the visit:

- Smiley face
- Okay, ambivalent face
- Unhappy, frowning face



For the first time, the customer satisfaction survey is also available online. Customers are given the option to rate services provided via the ADPH or county health department websites. The website message introducing the dropdown survey states, “ADPH cares about what you think of the services we provide. We value your feedback and look forward to receiving your ratings and comments.” Customer responses made on paper surveys and through the website will be entered into the Learning Content Management System (LCMS) where results can be analyzed and used for quality improvement.

“Obtaining customer feedback and using that feedback to improve services are key components of a health department performance management system”, said Carol Heier, Accreditation Coordinator and Performance Improvement Manager. The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has included capturing and analyzing customer feedback as a measure that must be met to achieve accreditation. Monitoring customer satisfaction will be included in the department’s Quality Improvement Plan once it is finalized.

Men’s Health Fair Held at Maxwell Federal Prison

Men’s health outreach activities in 2014 extended to inmates at the Maxwell Federal Prison in Montgomery. Elana Parker Merriweather, ESAR-VHP/Minority/Special Populations coordinator, arranged with the recreation department at Maxwell Federal Prison to conduct a health fair that included presentations on smoking prevention and cessation, diabetes and heart disease, dental health, men’s health and emergency preparedness. Correctional officers noted that the inmate population was complimentary about the information provided in this collaborative educational effort held on Aug. 21.

Shown, left to right, are Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Adrinda Carter of Public Health Area 8, prison employee Janie Martin, ACORN Program Manager/EP Social Worker William Kennedy, Community-Clinical Linkages Manager, Diabetes Prevention and Control Program Lamont Pack, prison employees Herman Hires, and front row, Christopher Thomas.



Alabama Department of Public Health

Mission

To serve the people of Alabama by assuring conditions in which they can be healthy.

Value Statement

The purpose of the Alabama Department of Public Health is to provide caring, high quality and professional services for the improvement and protection of the public’s health through disease prevention and the assurance of public health services to resident and transient populations of the state regardless of social circumstances or the ability to pay.

The Department of Public Health works closely with the community to preserve and protect the public’s health and to provide caring quality services.

Alabama’s Health

Alabama’s Health is an official publication of the Alabama Department of Public Health, Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease. If you would like to receive the publication or wish to submit information for future articles, please telephone requests to (334) 206-5300. Articles may be reprinted provided credit is given to the Alabama Department of Public Health. The department’s website is <http://www.adph.org>.

Donald E. Williamson, M.D.	State Health Officer
Jim McVay, Dr. P.A.	Director, Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease
Arrol Sheehan, M.A.	Editor
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Noelle Ahmann	Graphic Designer

Department Historically Plays Significant Role in Promoting Smoke-free Air in Alabama; ANR Honors Department Again

In 1986 Dr. Ira L. Myers, Alabama's State Health Officer, led the formation of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama (TFA) through the Alabama Department of Public Health with the goal of achieving a tobacco free society.

The coalition is a partnership made up of the Health Department (Central Office staff and Area Tobacco Coordinators), the Alabama Chapters of the American Lung Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association, and countless businesses, organizations and community members/local coalitions across the state. Its position statement is as follows:

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama believes that everyone has the right to breathe smoke-free air. Adopting strong smoke-free policies is the only effective way to completely eliminate the health threat of exposure to secondhand smoke. Additionally, smoke-free policies help people quit tobacco. We support comprehensive smoke-free policies that cover all workplaces — including restaurants and bars — and allow for no exemptions.

The organization, Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights (ANR), which was founded in 1976, presents awards annually to the states that achieve the greatest number of strong local smoke-free laws each year—either by passing new ordinances or strengthening existing laws. ANR analyzes all new laws enacted.

In 2012 Dr. Donald E. Williamson, State Health Officer, accepted the crystal first place trophy on behalf of TFA from ANR, the Smoke-free Indoor Air Challenge Award, for



Bronson Frick of Americans for Nonsmokers Rights presents Ashley Lyerly, chair of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama, the second place Smoke-free Indoor Air Challenge Award for having the most smoke-free cities in 2013. Alabama tied with South Carolina for this award.

having the most local smoke-free laws passed during the year 2011. Alabama tied with California. In congratulating the TFA, ANR stated in a news release dated April 3, 2012, "It's not often that Alabama and California are mentioned together as smoke free leaders, but now they are."

Again this year the TFA partnership was honored by receiving the second place trophy (tied with South Carolina) for 2013. As the founding member, the Alabama Department of Public Health continues its leadership role in this partnership devoted to achieving a tobacco free Alabama.

Campaign Promotes Importance of Oral Health in Overall Health

The Oral Health Office, located within the Bureau of Family Health Services, will be launching a new marketing campaign during fiscal year 2015. The Oral Health Office has been awarded additional MCH (maternal and child health) funds to develop new oral health messages, a new oral health brand, and new strategies designed to prevent oral disease and educate the public regarding the severity of oral health problems in Alabama and the nation.

The oral health staff is working with the Marketing and Communications Division of the Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease to target children, youth, adults and seniors, primarily in underserved communities, with messages that will promote

- the importance of oral health to overall health,
- the seriousness of oral health problems,
- the costs of dental disease to society, and
- the importance of investing in preventing dental disease.

Newspaper, magazine, and theater ads, as well as gas pump toppers, and other media venues will be utilized to promote key oral health messages that have been developed and promoted by the National MCH Oral Health Policy Center.

One of the print advertisements is found on page 11 of this issue. This ad features Tyler Hodge and Georgia Blaze, sixth graders at Macon East Academy in Cecil. Their bright smiles model the importance of daily oral health care.

Disease Intervention Specialists Make a Difference

In recognition of DIS Appreciation Day, the Division of Sexually Transmitted Diseases honored STD program managers during the annual manager's meeting on Oct. 16 at the AIDT Training Center in Montgomery.

Annual National DIS Recognition Day

Why we celebrate:

- DIS are the backbone of state and local STD/HIV programs.
- DIS serve the most critical role in the reporting and controlling of the spread of STDs, HIV, TB and hepatitis.
- DIS cover many miles in their attempt to assure that all patients who are infected, or have been exposed to an infection, are notified and treated.
- It is important to recognize those whose work often goes unrecognized.
- DIS brave unsafe conditions, work weekends and nights and respond to crises outside of STD/HIV prevention including pertussis, H1N1 influenza, *E. coli* and other outbreaks.
- DIS are silent heroes dedicated to serving the health of their communities.



Shown, left to right, seated: Dana Battle (PHA 2), Wanda McCrimon (PHA 5), Rhonda Guthmiller (PHA 1); Lori McManus (PHA 4) and Deborah Bivins (PHA 3) Standing: Anthony Merriweather, Sterling Wimbish, Jr. (PHA 10), Kerry Owens (PHA 6), and Paul Piepho (PHA 11)

Director Anthony Merriweather, his wife Elana, their family and others prepared a delicious breakfast to share with the area managers and other staff who attended. Managers were presented certificates of recognition for their service.

Environmental Services Q and A

QUESTION: We are looking at possibly expanding our cemetery behind our church. What rules and regulations apply to expanding a cemetery? Do we need to keep it certain distances away from houses or roads? Do we need permits to expand it or just stay within the guidelines?

RESPONSE: According to state law, church cemeteries are exempted from the definition below. However, your local county commission or municipality may have an ordinance/standard that you must meet concerning the expansion of the church's existing cemetery.

CEMETERY. Any land or structure in this state dedicated to and used, or intended to be used, for interment of human remains. It may be either a burial park for earth interments, or a mausoleum for vault or crypt interments, or a combination of one or more thereof. The term shall not include governmentally owned cemeteries, fraternal cemeteries, church and synagogue cemeteries, or family burial plots.

More than 45 WIC Clinics Provide Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

The Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Program continues to provide breastfeeding information and support to Alabama WIC pregnant and breastfeeding moms. Peer counselors are current or former WIC participants who have breastfed their infants for at least 6 months. Presently, peer counselors are providing services to participants in more than 45 WIC clinics across the state. Expansion plans to implement the program in additional clinics continue.

If you would like more information on breastfeeding, please contact Michell Grainger at (334)-209-2921 or Michell.Grainger@adph.state.al.us.

Coach Nick Saban Among Personalities 'Pinned' to Increase Diabetes Awareness

The Alabama Department of Public Health's Tuscaloosa County Diabetes Coalition and University of Alabama student group Diabetes Education Team (DiET) teamed up to raise awareness about diabetes in Alabama. November is National Diabetes Awareness Month and World Diabetes Day is held globally on Nov. 14. The organizations have planned several events and campaigns, including participation in the International Diabetes Federation's global "Pin a Personality" campaign.

Several Tuscaloosa personalities are lined up to be pinned on the UA campus and around the community. DiET will hold its annual on-campus awareness event for UA faculty, staff and students at the Ferguson Center on Nov. 14. The campaign was kicked off with the pinning of UA football coach Nick Saban. Alex Morris, DiET president, did the pinning and he was joined by members of DiET and the Coalition.

World Diabetes Day was established by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) to increase awareness about the disease world-wide and is recognized by the United Nations. Nov. 14 commemorates the birthday of Frederick Banting, one of the discoverers of insulin. According to the IDF, it is estimated that over 382 million people in the world live with diabetes and over 24.4 million of them are in the U.S. They further estimate that by 2035, the figure will increase 55 percent to 592 million worldwide. One in nine Alabamians has diabetes.

What can you do? Wear blue on World Diabetes Day and all month to raise awareness in your community!

By TERINA WOOD



Pictured left to right: Dr. Rebecca Kelly, DiET faculty advisor; Andrew Davis, DiET vice president; Alex Morris, DiET president; Nick Saban, UA head football coach; Holly O'Hara, DiET director of brand management; Cindy Bramble, Coalition co-chair; Terina Wood, Coalition co-chair and PHA 3 social work director.



DiET President Alex Morris pins Coach Saban with a blue circle, which is the international symbol for diabetes.

Angela Bretherick Named to Who's Who in Infection Control 2014

Epidemiology Nurse Angela Bretherick of Public Health Area 1 was inducted into Who's Who in Infection Control and is featured in a special slide show posted on the Infection Control Today magazine website.

"Angie is an expert resource for the IPs at our local hospitals," her nominator stated. "I have called her after hours and on weekends with pressing questions and she always has the answer. She is a wealth of knowledge, whether she is investigating an outbreak, reporting communicable diseases, monitoring foodborne illnesses, educating others about bioterrorism or serving our APIC chapter in North Alabama. She is inspiring, educated, and current on infection control standards of practice and an excellent role model for IPs and healthcare professionals."



Dr. Karen Landers, area health officer, said, "I am reminded on a regular basis how much her peers respect her and, even though she is a retired state employee on contract, how much we rely on her expertise."

Alabama Child Death Review System Continues Making Positive Impact in Reducing Preventable Child Deaths

Each year approximately one-third of all child deaths in Alabama are considered “preventable,” and for the past 17 years child safety advocates throughout the state have worked to decrease needless, regrettable child deaths.

The Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) was created by state law in 1997 to review all unexplained or unexpected child deaths in Alabama. The ACDRS is situated within the Alabama Department of Public Health for administrative and budgetary purposes. Its mission is to understand how and why children die in Alabama, in order to prevent other child deaths. ACDRS focuses on prevention through statistical analysis, education, advocacy efforts and local community involvement.

Local teams review qualifying cases within their jurisdiction and submit findings to the state Child Death Review office, which collects and analyzes the data and findings for presentation to the state team. The state team then reviews aggregate data and findings and develops prevention strategies and recommendations.

Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, chairs the State Child Death Review team and has been chairperson since its inception. Dr. Williamson and departmental staff provide leadership for the ACDRS.

At a news conference celebrating the system’s success, uplinked by satellite on Sept. 2, he remarked, “ACDRS has been involved in many successful outreach, awareness, education and policy efforts, all aimed at keeping children safe and preventing child deaths. There has been a significant decline in preventable child deaths since its beginning.”

Some of the requirements of the state team are as follows:

- Identify injury/death risk factors
- Collect and share information among state team members and agencies which provide services to children and families for investigation of child deaths
- Identify trends relevant to unexpected/unexplained child injury and death
- Make suggestions/recommendations for improving infant/child injury/death investigations
- Determine, by consent of state team members, what protocols should be followed to provide data and information
- Provide training/education to assist investigators to improve their investigations
- Examine confidentiality and access to information laws, regulations, and policies for agencies with responsibilities for children

- Propose and recommend changes to the appropriate state agencies if laws impede necessary exchange of information

The department’s State Child Death Review Team (SCDRT) has provided meaningful assistance and education resulting in the passage of a new unexplained infant death investigation law which continues helping Alabama reduce its preventable death rate for infants and children.

SCDRT Recommendations on Vehicular and Sleep-Related Deaths Adopted in 2009

Vehicular deaths are the leading category of preventable deaths of Alabama children less than 18 years of age reviewed by the ACDRS. The team made recommendations on the following:

- Comprehensive statewide awareness and education campaigns related to teen driver safety and child passenger safety
- Enhancements to the Graduated Driver’s License (GDL) Law to include:
 - o Significantly reducing the number of passengers allowed for the GDL driver
 - o Increasing the limitations on late-hour driving under the GDL
 - o Prohibiting the GDL driver from using distracting electronic devices while driving
- Enhancements to/stricter enforcement of child passenger restraint laws
- Establishment of a minimum age to operate All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)
- Safety training requirements for ATV operators
- Prohibition of passengers from open truck beds of public roads

The team also recommended

- A comprehensive statewide safe infant sleep awareness and education campaign
- Support and promotion of the Alabama Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation (SUIDI) Team’s curriculum and training courses.

SUIDI Act Passes Without Opposition in 2011

As a direct result of SCDRT recommendations to the Governor and Legislature, a Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation (SUIDI) Act (2011) was passed by acclamation, thanks to proponents including CDR staff, who had been effective in proving how much it was needed.

The act has made giant strides to assure proper investigation techniques are used to ensure accurate cause of death determinations are made, as opposed to what was

previously the case, lumping all unexplained infant deaths into the SIDS category.

Since passage of the Act in 2011, ACDRS took the lead in developing state-of-the-art training sessions on unexplained infant death investigation techniques. The sessions were made available upon request. Dr. Kenneth Snell (then chief medical examiner for the Alabama Department of Forensic Science (ADFS)), Scott Belton (also of ADFS), and ADPH's Richard Burlison (then ACDRS director) personally trained most of the coroners in Alabama at the 2012 Alabama Coroners Association Conference. ACDRS has plans to offer this training through distance learning in the future.

Since passage of the act and subsequent training, "SIDS" diagnoses in Alabama have dropped dramatically, with a corresponding increase in the more correct "suffocation" and "undetermined" categories of infant death.

Reducing infant/child deaths is the paramount goal for the ACDRS, making sure investigators understand the cause of an infant/child death is an important step in finding ways to reduce and eliminate them altogether.

Partners Praise ACDRS

In announcing the release of the 25th annual "KIDS COUNT Data Book" in July 2014, the organization, VOICES for Alabama's Children, pointed out improvements in Alabama in several measurement categories and credited the Alabama Child Death Review System with its "positive impact on further reducing preventable deaths."

Melanie Bridgeforth, VOICES executive director, said, "VOICES for Alabama's Children is proud to provide the research that serves as a roadmap for decision makers to utilize when creating public policy that impacts the well-being of our children. We applaud Don Williamson and his team for their continued leadership in protecting the health and safety of our children."

Key findings are that the two leading categories of preventable child deaths in Alabama are vehicular and infant sleep-related deaths, and these two causes of death account for half or more of all preventable child deaths. The most common vehicular deaths involve issues relating to teen driving or unrestrained or improperly restrained child passengers.

Since 2000, local teams have reviewed more than 4,000 child deaths in depth, and recommendations have led to prevention efforts that include the following:

- Recent public education and awareness including Safe Infant Sleep campaigns and a teen driver safety campaign commended by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation
- Public policy recommendations from the state team including improvements in teen driver and child passenger safety, expansion of safe infant sleep efforts, and improved access to injury data in Alabama
- Direct efforts including the distribution of child car seats and booster seats across the state and hands-on instruction in their proper use
- Data and informational support for several successful legislative efforts

More information is available by visiting www.adph.org/cdr.

Alabama Response to April 2011 Tornado Outbreak Featured

The Emergency Preparedness and Response section of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website features an interview with Dr. Karen Landers, assistant state health officer for Public Health Area 1 and pediatrics consultant, who encourages pediatricians to participate in emergency preparedness efforts.

Dr. Landers was one of many health department employees who responded on April 27, 2011, when more than 60 tornadoes struck the state. She credited the Center for Emergency Preparedness and its cooperation with pediatricians and others in mitigating injuries and loss of life.

"Nothing strengthens one's resolve as a pediatrician to do more for children than to look into the faces of grieving parents," Dr. Landers said. "My ongoing passion is ensuring that we remember the uniqueness of children in disasters."

Part of Alabama's response in follow-up to the devastating tornadoes was to form health care coalitions in each of the public health areas to solicit input from physicians of all disciplines, hospitals and other members of the health care community.

"Without Andy Mullins' team, we could not have had the impact we've had in past events," Dr. Landers said. "The Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics has worked very hard to promote preparedness efforts with us, and our Center for Emergency Preparedness has been extremely welcoming to our concerns. It takes a village in an emergency."

The web article, an article on another Alabama physician and other resources can be found at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/children/real-stories/2014/doctor-landers.asp>.

Community Health Improvement Plan Stakeholders Meet

Leading health care concerns will shape a Community Health Improvement Plan for Alabama that will have links to the department's Strategic Plan and services. Shown are facilitators and members of workgroups that convened Aug. 20 at a CHIP Stakeholders meeting at the Montgomery County Health Department.



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Disclaimer:

The contents of this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of or endorsement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

IMPROVING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH MEANS IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH.

In order to help the citizens of Alabama get – and stay – healthy, the Alabama Department of Public Health has to keep itself in top shape.

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(334) 206-5703

September 2014

Commendations

If you would like to praise employees for their accomplishments, send letters of commendation to the State Health Officer or the employee's supervisor and a copy by e-mail to Arrol.Sheehan@adph.state.al.us for inclusion in this list. Four items are needed: the employee's name, work unit, name of the person making the commendation, and his or her city and state.

Kaye Bice

Tonya Blankenship

Health Provider Standards
from *Aundrea Hughes*
Huntsville, Ala.

Amy Cleckler

Chilton County Health
Department
from *Claudia L. Baugh*
Prattville, Ala.

Mary Conroy

Public Health Area 8
from *K. Ingram*
Prattville, Ala.

Sandra Daniels

Center for Health Statistics
from *Cheryl Martin*
Jackson, Miss.

Cathy Molchan Donald

Center for Health Statistics
from *Jill Romann*
Castle Rock, Colo.

Jackie Esty

Center for Health Statistics
from *Jessica Basden*
Decatur, Ala.

Kimberly Hancock

Carter Sims

Carol Williams

Health Provider Standards
from *Anthony Martinez*
Baton Rouge, La.

Janice Nix

Home and Community Services
from *Jacqueline Giddens*
Montgomery, Ala.

Retirees

The following departmental employees have retired recently.

August

Rebecca Giles

Bureau of Clinical Laboratories

Nancy Hodges

Jackson County Health Department

Sylvia Horton

Etowah County Health Department

James Jackson

Montgomery County Health
Department

Vicki Lankford

Public Health Area 2

Dianne Lyle

Winston County Health
Department

Janet Newell

Winston County Health
Department

Thomas Sankey

Bureau of Clinical Laboratories

Kathy Serpa

Cullman County Health Department

Marci Sorrells

Geneva County Health Department

September

Gabriele Darch

Family Health Services

Gracie Davis

Area V

R. Steve Hakel

Lee County Health Department

Barbara Kilgore

Winston County Health
Department

Joan Lindsey

Cherokee County Health
Department

Linda McDaniel

Lee County Health Department

Deborah Myers

Cullman County Health Department

Bertie Welch

Houston County Health
Department

Diane West

Cullman County Health Department

October

Alexis Brown

Shelby County Health Department

Cheryle Eschenbaugh

Area 5

James Lovelace

Madison County Health Department

James Gary Mackey

Emergency Medical Services

Barbara Spurlin

Marshall County Health Department

Etowah County Nurse Coordinator Honored with 2014 UAB Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Lindsey Laminack, nurse coordinator with the Etowah County Health Department, received the 2014 University of Alabama at Birmingham Outstanding Young Alumni Award. She was recognized Oct. 9 at a formal ceremony.

"This is a very prestigious honor that recognizes her excellence in nursing and contributions to the field," according to Sabrina Nuckols, M.S.N., FNP-BC, Public Health Area 5 Nursing Director. "We are very fortunate to have her in the agency. She is a shining star and upcoming nursing leader within the agency."



PUT SOME BRUSH & FLOSS IN YOUR LIFE TODAY!



Children who see a dentist in their first year have dental costs that are 40% lower than those who wait until after one year of age.

Drinking fluoridated water is the most efficient way to prevent one of the most common childhood diseases, dental decay.

An estimated 51 million school hours are lost each year due to dental related illness.

Bacteria that causes cavities can be passed to children by simple routine activities like sharing spoons, cups or straws, testing food temperatures and licking pacifiers.



ADPH.ORG



ORAL HEALTH OFFICE
Promoting Smiles Across a Lifetime

Calendar of Events



November 7

SSRI: Pharmacology Update
for ADPH Nurse Practitioners,
8:30-10:30 a.m.

For more information
contact Charlie Thomas,
(334) 206-5666.



November 17

Pharmacy Reciprocity
Interviews, 2-2:30 p.m.

For more information,
contact Susan Alverson,
(205) 981-4770.



November 21

The Dawning of a New Day:
Women's Reproductive Health
Update for ADPH Nurse
Practitioners, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

For more information contact
Beth Nichols, (334) 206-7959.



December 11

TB for ADPH Disease
Intervention Specialists
(Part 1 of 2), 10 a.m.-noon.

For more information contact
Pam Barrett, (334) 206-6228.



December 15

Pharmacy Reciprocity
Interviews, 2-2:30 p.m.

For more information,
contact Susan Alverson,
(205) 981-4770.



December 18

TB for ADPH Disease
Intervention Specialists
(Part 2 of 2), 10 a.m.-noon.

For more information contact
Pam Barrett, (334) 206-6228.



January 8

ADPH Statewide
Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m.

For more information
contact Video Communications,
(334) 206-5618



January 28

Caring for Patients with
Continence Issues in Home
Care, 2-4 p.m.

For more information
contact Becky Leavins,
(334) 206-3867.

April 8-10

Alabama Public Health
Association 59th Annual
Meeting and Health Education
Conference, Embassy
Suites, 300 Tallapoosa St.,
Montgomery. For more
information visit alphassoc.org.